

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system for changing operation mode of a first communication interface of a first device in communication with a second device, comprising:

a communication activator external to the first device to send a trigger signal when an external third device wants to communicate with the first device via the first interface;

a second communication interface inside the first device to receive the trigger signal;

an operation mode control module coupled to the first and second interfaces to cause the first interface to change its operation mode in order to communicate with the third device when the second interface receives the trigger signal.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the communication activator is inside the third device that also includes a first communication interface and a second communication interface, wherein the communication activator sends the trigger signal through the second communication interface of the third device.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the communication activator is located external to the third device.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein the operation mode of the first

interface of the first device is changed to (1) suspend its current exclusive communication with the second device and (2) include the third device in its communication such that the first, second, and third devices are in communication together.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein the operation mode of the first interface of the first device is changed to (1) suspend its current communication with the second device and (2) establish communication with the third device.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the first and second communication interfaces employ different wireless communication technologies.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein each of the first and second communication interfaces employs a wireless communication technology selected from a group comprising infrared communication technology, laser communication technology, short range radio frequency communication technology, and long range radio frequency communication technology.

8. A method for changing operation mode of a first communication interface of a first device in communication with a second device, comprising:

(A) generating a trigger signal from a communication activator external to the first device when an external third device wants to communicate with the first device via the first interface;

(B) receiving the trigger signal by a second communication interface inside the device;

(C) causing the first communication interface to change its operation mode in order to communicate with the third device when the second interface receives the trigger signal.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the communication activator is inside the third device that also includes a first communication interface and a second communication interface, wherein the communication activator sends the trigger signal through the second communication interface of the third device.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the communication activator is located external to the third device.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein the step (C) is performed by suspending the current exclusive communication of the first interface with the second device; and

including the third device in the communication such that the first, second, and third devices are in communication together.

12. The method of claim 8, wherein the step (C) is performed by suspending the current communication of the first interface of the first device with the second device;

establishing communication with the third device.

13. The method of claim 8, wherein the first and second communication interfaces employ different wireless communication technologies.

14. The method of claim 8, wherein each of the first and second communication interfaces employs a wireless communication technology selected from a group comprising infrared communication technology, laser communication technology, short range radio frequency communication technology, and long range radio frequency communication technology.

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